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Subject: Update

P6/b(6)

Mr. President,

Details are still limited on this incident at the US Army Depot in Hawthorne, NV, but our National Military Command Center is now reporting that seven Marines were killed and seven wounded in an overnight live fire training exercise.

Tom will update in the PDB and we will determine what additional steps, if any, are necessary thereafter.

Thanks,

DM

Mar 19, 8:05 AM EDT

Explosion during training at Army depot in Nevada

RENO, Nev. (AP) -- An official at the Hawthorne Army Depot in Nevada says an explosion has occurred during a Marine Corps training exercise.

Russ Collier told KARNV-TV in Reno that the explosion Monday night was an accident unrelated to the ammunition that is stored at the military facility near the small desert community of Hawthorne, about 140 miles southeast of Reno.

There was no immediate information of any injuries. Calls to the depot and to U.S. Joint Munitions Command, which oversees the facility, were not immediately answered.

The Mineral County sheriff's office says it does not have any details.

The Hawthorne Army Depot stores and disposes of ammunition. The facility is made up of hundreds of buildings spread over more than 230 square miles.

In Washington, Army spokesman George Wright says he as yet had no details on the explosion.